SUBJECT No. 168.

Free grant of charcoal to iron smelters from State Forests.

Mr. Gurulingappa, Honnali taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present rate of seigniorage levied on charcoal, *viz.*, Rs. 2-8-0 per cart-load, works as a hardship to iron smelters, who have no other means of livelihood. To afford some encouragement to the industry, it is prayed that free permits may be granted to *bona fide* iron smelters to prepare and fetch for use, charcoal from bamboos and other dead wood lying unused in the State Forests.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 169.

Reduction of seigniorage on fuel in the malnad.

Messrs. C. Vamana Rao and Nadig Subba Rao, Nagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The conditions of weather in the malnad require a large consumption of fuel in the rainy season and winter. Moreover, as the fuel locally available is not of a good quality, the consumption of it is large. The levy of a seigniorage of 4 annas per cart-load of fuel, even in the malnad as in the maidan, works as a hardship to the people in the malnad. It is prayed that the present rate of seigniorage may be reduced to two annas per cart-load in the malnad.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 170.

Removal of wood from the district forests and kans in the malnad.

Mr. Puttannagowda, Tirthahalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—District forests are intended for the use of ryots. These are mixed up with soppinabetta kans and gomal lands. It is prayed that the Forest Department may be ordered not to work recklessly the district forests and kans. The ryots have to depend for wood for agricultural implements, etc., to some extent on these kans and if they are to be exploited by the Forest Department, it will greatly affect the resources of the ryots. The area allotted to each holder and village is distinct, and though it may not be marked on the ground, it is easily ascertainable.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into.

SUBJECT No. 171.

Honge leaves.

Mr. Soorappa, Tumkur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Honge leaves that grow in the district and other forests are sold by public auction along with minor forest produce. The honge leaves are very useful as manure for wet cultivation. It is therefore requested that orders may be issued not to sell them with forest produce.

Mr. D. Hanumantha Rao.—The leaves are sold by the Revenue Department and seeds by the Forest Department with the result that they are sold to different persons which lead to friction.

Reply of Government.—The subject is under consideration. Order will be issued to sell the seeds and leaves together to the same person.

SUBJECT No. 172.

Levy of fees for removing "*kirèachal*" leaves.

Mr. Ranganna, Manjarabad taluk.

Summary of discussion.—"*Kirèachal*" is a shrub plant growing in the malnad. The leaves of these plants are used for purposes of monsoon screens to protect walls

of buildings, also as thatch, etc., in the malnad. People were removing these leaves without payment of any fees. The fee now being levied for such removal may be discontinued.

Reply of Government.—Noted. The Deputy Commissioners of Shimoga, Kadur and Hassan will be consulted.

SUBJECT No. 173.

Exemption of certain jungle trees from classification.

Mr. M. Subba Rao, Heggaddevankote taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The classification of trees ordered in Government Proceedings No. 628-9—6760-7, dated 4th May 1903, was tentative for a period of 3 years, but it has since been ordered that the same classification should continue. The trees excluded from the reserve list are not useful for agricultural purposes. A reclassification may be made to place at the disposal of the ryots, Bagani, Kaggali, Bilijala, Gobli, Thadasala, Sogade, Gumchi and Dindiga.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 174.

(*a*) Jambe wood to be excluded from the reserved class of trees.

(*a*) Mr. Puttannagowda, Tirthahalli taluk.

(*b*) Grant of "Jambe" wood under Malnad Ryots' Rules.

(*b*) Mr. Bhistiah, Yedahalli subtaluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) As Jambe is the wood best suited for house-building in the malnad, not being likely to be destroyed soon by white-ants, it is prayed that it may be excluded from the reserved class of trees.

(*b*) "Jambe" tree may be included in the list of trees granted to malnad people under the rules prescribed for malnad ryots' privileges.

Mr. Pilkington.—The reason for its reservation was that there was great demand for it for railway sleepers. It is not used for such purposes now. The wood is very hard and cannot be easily sawn. It is useful only for making poles. The original rate was only 1 rupee per cart-load.

Reply of Government.—The seigniorage will be restored to the old rate of 1 rupee per cart-load.

SUBJECT No. 175.

Issue of *mafi* licenses by Amildars.

Messrs. T. Ramachandra Rao and K. Puttappa, Bangalore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—As the rules stand at present, the Jodidars who wish to obtain fuel for their own use from their villages, have to wait till they obtain licenses from the District Forest Officer, who does not issue them till the receipt of mahazars of shekdars and others. This is a source of great inconvenience to the jodidars, as it prevents them from obtaining fuel in times of need. The Amildars may therefore be empowered to issue such licenses as soon as applications for them are received.

Reply of Government.—Amildars will be empowered to issue the licenses.

SUBJECT No. 176.

Destruction of wild boars.

Messrs. Amble Anniah Pandit and C. Narasimhiah, Mysore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Wild boars are at present devastating about one-fourth of the agricultural produce in forest tracts. If some arrangement is made to guard